

REMARKS

The present application is directed to novel compositions comprising electroprocessed collagen. Claims 1-8 were pending prior to the issuance of the March 10, 2004, non-final Office Action. Claims 1-8 are cancelled without prejudice and new claims 25-46 are added. Following entry of this amendment claims 25-46 will be pending. No new matter is added and support for the amendments is found throughout the specification.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Coffee et al. (WO 98/03267), hereinafter *Coffee*.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Applicants have canceled claims 1-8. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 25-46 recite components and/or characteristics of electroprocessed collagen which are not taught or disclosed by *Coffee*.

Applicants submit that the repeated banding pattern of electroprocessed collagen recited in claim 25 is not taught or disclosed by *Coffee*. Furthermore, the banding pattern occurring at a spacing pattern of about 65 nm to about 67 nm is not taught, disclosed or suggested by *Coffee*. Support for the recitation of the repeated banding pattern can be found in the specification including page 18, lines 23-29. Furthermore Applicants demonstrate the repeated banding pattern in Figure 9 of the instant application.

Applicants submit that the pore size of electroprocessed collagen recited in claim 33 is not taught, disclosed or suggested by *Coffee*. The claimed pore size of electroprocessed collagen is supported throughout the specification, and at least at page 31, line 25-page 32, line 4, and page 107, lines 8-11.

Applicants submit that the claimed electroprocessed collagen comprising a blend of at least two types of collagen is supported throughout the specification, and at least at page 31, lines 19-22. A Figure demonstrating the electroprocessed collagen comprising at least two types of collagen is provided (Figure 2). *Coffee* fails to teach, disclose or suggest

electroprocessed collagen comprising a blend of at least two types of collagen.


Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully assent that this is a complete response to the non-final Office Action dated March 10, 2004, and that the pending claims are novel and patentably distinct. Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes there are other issues that can be resolved by telephone interview, or that there are any informalities remaining in the application which may be corrected by Examiner's Amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at (404) 815-6500 is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$18 to Deposit Account number 11-0855 for two additional dependent claims. No additional fees are believed due; however the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account number 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,



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